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## The Maine Voter vol. 26, no. 3 (Jan 1979)

Maine League of Women Voters Staff

*Maine League of Women Voters*

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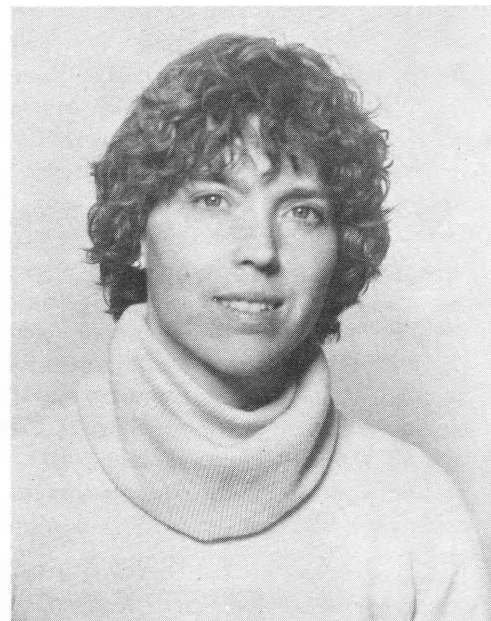
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## STATE LEAGUE HIRES LOBBYIST!

The League of Women Voters of Maine now has its very own lobbyist for the first time! She is Alice Johnson from Turner, Maine. Alice has very impressive credentials. She graduated from Concord Academy and has a B.A. in Art History from Harvard University. Her previous employment includes office manager for an architectural firm, research, public relations, acting for T.V., movies and off-Broadway, guide and craftsperson for Old Sturbridge Village, legal secretary, art teacher for K-12, co-owner of Heritage Builders and President of the Lewiston/Auburn Area League of Women Voters.

Alice will follow up League testimony at public hearings by lobbying for the passage of our priority legislation at the State House. She will work with the state board, local Leagues and the membership at large to increase the flow of information to achieve greater impact in our constituent lobbying efforts. We welcome Alice and are grateful for this step forward for the League of Women Voters of Maine.



Alice Johnson



## LEAGUE DAY AT THE LEGISLATURE

(hosted by Kennebec Valley League)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 1979

- 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. Registration
- 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Attend Legislature in session
- 11:00 - 12:30 p.m. Program - Greetings from Governor  
Update by state board,  
briefings by lobbyists, etc.
- 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch in State House cafeteria
- 1:30 p.m. Attend hearings

COME EARLY AND BRING A FRIEND!

Check with local League for their arrangements

## ERA POSTCARDS

Please help us raise the \$825.00 we still owe LWVUS for ERA ratification by purchasing our ERA postcards. If each member buys one packet we will reach our goal.



\$1.25 for 12

To Order: Send check and amount wanted to:

Kay White  
73 Deerfield Road  
Portland, ME 04101

## 1st CALL TO STATE CONVENTION

May 18 - 19

Eastland Hotel

Portland, Maine

## NEW ENGLAND ENERGY CONGRESS

The New England Energy Congress held its Maine hearing in Augusta on December 15 for public comment on its Preliminary Report, due for completion March 15, 1979. Sherry Huber, N.E.E.C. member, Maine legislator and LWV member moderated the afternoon session.

The testimony (17 speakers) reflected the range of opinion that is represented on the energy congress and was both complimentary and critical. The environmentalists (Natural Resources Council, Maine Audubon Society, private citizens) felt that more alternate energy sources could and should be promoted and that conservation and life style changes are possible to curb energy growth. The utility and business representatives (G. M. P., Economic Resources Council of Maine) argued that nuclear expansion is the only economical and feasible choice to accommodate the growth projections in New England's future and that too much regulation was costing us time and money.

Since the N.E.E.C. is sponsored by the N. E. Congressional Caucus, its delegates represent a cross section of interests; consumers, educators, environmentalists, finance, government, labor, low-income, industry and manufacturing, research and development, small business, industry. The decision to come to consensus on the issues it presents guarantees frustration and dissatisfaction from those with points of view at each end of the spectrum. The 120 members have worked, talked and studied many hours since last May and have been forced to compromise in order to arrive at the proposals listed in the Preliminary Report. The process of hearing all sides and then voting ones conscience is certainly democracy at work. It will be interesting to observe the results as they reach the federal level.

Bonnie Anderson

Energy Chairman

## BOSTON SOLAR ENERGY MEETING

On May 2, 1978, Sun Day, President Carter announced the formation of a Cabinet-level Solar Energy Domestic Policy Review Committee. Public meetings were set up in each of the ten Department of Energy Regions (Region I - Boston) and were held in June and July with responses from 2782 persons requesting to speak. Some 983 presentations were actually made and 621 written testimonies were received.

"The most surprising aspect of the hearings was the lack of discussion of the energy crisis. The support for solar energy was far less a response to the energy crisis or the need for a switch from nonrenewable to renewable energy resources than it was a reaction to the scale of institutions in America. To most people, the benefit of solar energy was in its social and political implications."

As such, the message to government was, we are ready to pursue solar with or without your help but your help would certainly speed the process.

The speakers at all the meetings were primarily representing the solar industry, the consumer groups and the private citizens but also included testimony from state and local government, the academic community and representatives from energy research. The written testimony was primarily from private citizens with consumer groups and the academic community also well represented. The solar industry, energy research and general business, and architects were next in the number of groups represented.

The major policy recommendations that emerged from these meetings were that 1. the Federal Government should move more aggressively from the research phase to the commercialization, and marketing, and public education phase with respect to solar energy. 2. Decentralization both in program process and in context should be pursued vigorously. Funding programs from the Federal Government should emphasize small-scale systems, small businesses, individual inventors and community organizations and the grant process must be streamlined and simplified. 3. Solar income tax credits be legislated within or separate from the National Energy Act. 4. Energy should be a component in an overall economic development strategy, which includes energy planning and the transfer of funds in the D. O. E. budget from other energy sources to solar. 5. Solar programs

## ELECTION NIGHT REPORTING LWV-ABC

The election night reporting went very well. All the reporters called in their tallies as quickly as possible thus allowing ABC to project the winners first. I want to thank all these people again for a job well done.

The project has been wrapped up completely with all the expenses of the reporters reimbursed. I've written notes for the next state co-ordinator so that she or he may have even smoother sailing than I did — at least I hope that will happen. Since 1980 is a Presidential election year — who knows!

ABC has sent me several letters praising the League's efforts: they acknowledged the League's work publically on Nov. 7th, also. Our efforts earned the State League \$1,125.00.

Thank you for choosing me to be the state co-ordinator. It was fun and interesting. I'm looking forward to meeting my reporters at spring convention.

Diane Guldner

## NATURAL RESOURCES — ENERGY

The Energy Committees from the Local Leagues in Maine are dividing up the aspects of the Energy Study to become more knowledgeable about the specifics of this multifaceted topic. To keep up-to-date on new discoveries of oil, natural gas, demonstration projects using wind or solar, biomass or solid waste, new and proposed energy legislation, all need the input from members. Our Maine Energy Policy gives us the ability to speak out but keeping abreast of the energy news is vital for informed comment. All contributions gratefully accepted.

Bonnie Anderson

Energy Chairman

be related to job creation. 6. Information on solar energy be more available to the public.

At the last of the series of public meetings, in Washington, Secretary of the Department of Energy, James R. Schlesinger promised "... that the recommendations and analyses now underway should be available for inclusion in the Fiscal Year 1980 budget cycle. That budget will be, I trust, a major step in solar energy development."

<sup>1</sup>The Great Adventure, A Report on the 10 Regional Public Hearings on Solar Energy for the Domestic Policy Review by the Franklin Institute Research Laboratories, October 1978, page 6.

Bonnie Anderson

Energy Chairman

## IMPORTANT CLEAN AIR DECISIONS AHEAD

Many years of work by the U.S. Congress and state and federal environmental protection agencies is about to come to fruition here in Maine. The Bureau of Air Quality Control of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection is soliciting public comment and input on a draft State Implementation Plan or SIP which is a document required by the Federal Clean Air Act for every state. The SIP must demonstrate how the state will clean up dirty air areas so as to meet federal air pollution standards and how the state proposes to implement the Prevention of Significant Deterioration air quality program which will protect our clean air areas from getting dirty. Formal hearings will be followed by submittal of the plan to both the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for federal approval and the Maine Legislature for those changes necessary in Maine statute to conform to federal requirements. Preliminary word on attendance at DEP briefings indicate that industry and special interest groups are turning out in force; members of the clean air constituency are sorely lacking.

**What does the Plan propose?** The SIP addresses Nonattainment Areas (those sections of the state which violate federal air standards) and clean air areas. Maine has violations of the standards for **carbon monoxide** in Lewiston and Bangor; both violations are related to downtown automobile traffic. Violations of the **particulate** (dust and other particles such as toxic metals) standard have been recorded in Augusta, Lewiston-Auburn, Baileyville, Bangor-Brewer and Thomaston-Rockland. The only area of the state which violates the **sulfur dioxide** standard is in Millinocket, site of the Great Northern Paper Co. pulp mill. The entire coastal section of Maine violates the **ozone** standard. The cause of this latter violation is due mainly to long distance transport of the pollutant from midwest and northeastern power plants and automobiles. However, Maine does contribute in part to this serious problem due to stationary sources of hydrocarbons (oil terminals, bulk gasoline transfer points, solvent operations in some paper making mills, etc.). All of these violations must be totally ended by December 31, 1982. The SIP must establish interim and final deadlines for the control of these pollutants and assure substantial progress toward meeting the standard during the early years. The Plan must also

## NEW STATE PUBLICATIONS CATALOG

The new state publications catalog is now available and can be obtained from your local League or from writing Marilyn Gass, RFD #1 Box 70 Hamden Highlands, ME 04445.

address the issue of new industries which desire to locate in Nonattainment areas: any new source must demonstrate that its additional pollutants in combination with existing pollution will result in less pollution than exists currently which in turn means stiff pollution controls on new sources.

Clean Air Areas (those which do not violate the federal standards) must be protected so that only small amounts of pollution will be allowed from new sources. Clean air areas can be classified as I (minimal amounts allowed; designed for pristine areas such as Acadia National Park), II (moderate increases allowed; normal industrial development with the latest available pollution controls), or III (greatest amount of pollution allowed; designed for clustering of major heavy industry). DEP has proposed that the northwest part of the state (which includes Baxter State Park, Allagash Wilderness Waterway and the Moosehead Lake region) be designated a Class I area. Other clean air areas will be regulated as Class II. No Class III areas are proposed.

**What can you do.** First, get on the DEP mailing list for this issue. Write Bureau of Air Quality Control, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, State House, Augusta 04330 and ask for the latest draft of the SIP. Second, write DEP and your **Maine Legislator** and tell him/her that you (1) support a strong clean air program; (2) support strict controls on all new industry to assure attainment and maintenance of clean air in Maine; (3) support the Class I designation so as to protect Maine's public lands in order that future generations may derive both recreational and economic benefits (trees need clean air too!); and (4) support strict controls on all sources of ozone pollutions in Maine which will allow the state to take a tough stand in forcing other states to clean up their mess before it travels to Maine (we can't complain if we do nothing to help solve the problem).

Contact Barbara Alexander, E. Q. Chair, RFD 1, Box 343, Readfield 04355 for further information.

## RATIFICATION OF D. C. AMENDMENT

The League of Women Voters has supported full voting representation for the District of Columbia since 1924 as a matter of simple justice.

This amendment, when ratified, will enable the District to have full voting representation in Congress: two senators and representatives according to population and the right to ratify constitutional amendments. Because this amendment also provides for D. C. representation in the electoral college, its ratification will repeal the 23rd amendment, enacted in 1961, which initially gave D. C. citizens that right.

To help members in their efforts to educate the general public and to positively influence ratification, here are some facts and answers to questions that may help you during the ratification debate:

### Facts

1977 census of population for the District of Columbia is over 690,000 people, larger than the population of seven states. It is a violation of civil rights that they have no voice.

D. C. citizens paid \$1.4 billion in federal taxes in 1977, greater than the taxes paid by eleven states. Since the colonial period of American history, "no taxation without representation" has been a fundamental American principle.

In the Viet Nam War 237 from the District of Columbia were killed, higher than ten other states, yet these casualties had no voice in the decisions that sent them — conscription without representation.

Of 115 nations in the world of elected national legislatures, only the U. S. and Brazil deny representation for citizens of their capital cities. Human rights' protection is denied.

### The Constitutional Questions

**Q.** Wasn't it the specific intention of the framers of the Constitution in establishing Washington as a "federal enclave" that its residents would not be allowed representation?

**A.** No. The purpose of Article 7, sec. 8, 17 of the Constitution was to avoid the necessity of Congress relying on a state government for protection. Voting rights were never an issue. No one could have envisioned 690,000 residents at that time — an "historical oversight", not a prohibition.

**Q.** Won't voting representation for D.

Continued on page 4

C. violate Article V of the Constitution: "no state shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate?"

A. By definition, a constitutional amendment cannot be unconstitutional. Since 1789, thirty-seven states have been added.

Q. Isn't it true that only **states** may be represented in Congress?

A. The Constitution is a living document and must be viable to change. Congress has been willing to treat the District as a state in almost every federal grant program. The term "state" shall include the District of Columbia.

Q. If D. C., a city, is given full voting rights in the Congress, won't others cite it as precedent?

## STATE BOARD MEETINGS

Members of the League are invited to attend state board meetings. They are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month (unless snowed out) from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the Augusta Bonanza on Route 202 West towards Winthrop. Please check with your local League for any changes.

A. No. The District is a unique jurisdiction in the U. S.

Full voting representation for D. C. is supported in both party platforms — 1976.

Maine's two representatives and two senators voted "yes".

## HELP WANTED!

### STATE BOARD SECRETARY

(a chance to meet interesting and charming ladies)

### EDITOR FOR STATE GOVERNMENT PAMPHLETS

(will serve as Sukey Allen's apprentice)

### FINANCE CHAIRMAN

(how can we continue without money?)

### PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN

(how can we grow without publicity?)

Don't be afraid to call about any of these positions! It sure is lots of fun and far better than coffee-klatching or watching TV.

Write Mary Ellen Maybury at 1115 N. Main St., Brewer, Maine 04412 (Telephone 989-3878) for more information.

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## maine voter

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Mrs. Louis Farley  
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